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COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (2009-10)

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organizations like Red Cross, etc.

THIRD REPORT

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August, 2010/ Shravana, 1932 (Saka)

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FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA

MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organizations like Red Cross, etc.)

Presented to Lok Sabha on **6 August, 2010**

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

August, 2010/ Shravana, 1932 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA) 2009-10

Shri A.K.S. Vijayan - Chairman

Members

2. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
3. Dr. Baliram
4. Dr. Pulin Bihari Baske
5. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
6. Adv. Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar
7. Shri D.B. Chandre Gowda
8. Shri Deepender Singh Hooda
9. Shri Kailash Joshi
10. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
11. Shri Babu Lal Marandi
12. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
13. Shri Jagdambika Pal
14. Kumari Saroj Pandey
15. Shri Amarnath Pradhan
16. Shri Rajendrasinh Rana
17. Shri Rudramadhab Ray
18. Shri Tufani Saroj
19. Shri Ajit Singh
20. Shri Gopal Singh Shekhawat
21. Shri Udai Pratap Singh (Hoshangabad)
22. Shri Vijay Inder Singla
23. Shri Jagdish Thakor
24. Shri Om Prakash Yadav

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri N.K. Sapra - Additional Secretary
2. Shri S. Bal Shekar - Additional Secretary
3. Shri Hardev Singh - Director
4. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Committee on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Third Report on the issue of "Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organizations like Red Cross, etc."

2. The Committee had taken up this matter for examination based on a proposal made by Shri Rup Chand Pal, former MP (Lok Sabha). The Committee considered the proposal after obtaining the factual report from the Government of West Bengal through the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation which is the nodal Ministry for implementation of the MPLAD Scheme. Decisions taken by the Committee were conveyed to the Ministry and its comments were obtained thereon. Recommendations of the Committee are given in this Report.

3. The Committee considered the Memorandum on the matter at their sitting held on 5 January 2010. The draft report was considered and adopted by the Committee during the sitting held on 16 June 2010.

4. The Committee would like to thank Shri Rup Chand Pal, former MP (Lok Sabha) for bringing this important matter to the attention of the Committee. The Committee also thank the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and the Government of West Bengal for placing before them the factual report and the comments in the matter.

5. For facility of reference, the observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters at the end of the Report.

New Delhi

05 August, 2010
14 Shravana, 1932 (Saka)

(A.K.S. VIJAYAN)
Chairman
Committee on Members of Parliament
Local Area Development Scheme
Lok Sabha

REPORT

Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulance by reputed service organizations like Red Cross etc.

During his tenure as Member of Lok Sabha, Shri Rupchand Pal had, *inter-alia,* recommended to the District Magistrate, Hooghly, on 11 February 2009 that a provision may be made out of his MPLADS funds, for the year 2008-09, for a Tata Sumo ambulance for Red Cross, Tamlipara, Hooghly at a cost of Rs. 6.50 lakh which was to be executed by the Hooghly Chinsurah Municipality.

2. In response to his recommendation, the ADM (General), Hooghly *vide* his letter dated 25 February 2009 (Appendix 1) had informed the then Hon. Member that since the said institution did not belong to Central, State, Union Territory or Local Self Government, his recommendation regarding provision of Tata Sumo ambulance for the Maternity Home, Red Cross, Tamlipura, Hooghly, was not permissible under the MPLAD Scheme guideline for organizations. He cited in this connection the entry at Sl. No. 8 of the List of Works prohibited under MPLADS annexed to the extant guidelines.

3. Subsequently, Shri Rupchand Pal, had addressed a letter dated 30 July 2009 (Appendix 2) to the MPLADS Committee Secretariat seeking to know the reason as to why organizations of international repute like the Indian Red Cross Society which has been historically rendering very valuable service to the victims of different calamities and adverse situations, are denied MPLAD funds when the Government itself is providing regular funds to the different Branches of the India Red Cross Society, including the Hooghly District Branch.

4. The representation received from Shri Rupchand Pal was forwarded to the Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation on 3 August, 2009 for a factual report in the matter. In response, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation had forwarded a copy of the factual report received by them from the District Magistrate, Hooghly District, vide letter dated 17 November 2009 (Appendix 3). According to this report, provision of a Tata Sumo ambulance is inadmissible under MPLAD Scheme as the India Red Cross Society does not belong to Central, State, UT or Local Self Government.

5. Under the extant MPLAD guidelines (November, 2005), certain items of works have been prohibited under the MPLAD Scheme. S. No. 8 under the list of works prohibited under MPLAD Scheme states as under:-

> "Purchase of all movable items except vehicles, earth movers, and equipments meant for hospital, educational, sports, drinking water and sanitation purposes belonging to Central, State, UT and Local Self Governments. (This will be subject to 10% of the capital cost of the work for which such items are proposed.)"

6. The provision of MPLADS funds for ambulances for reputed service organizations like the Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. existed under MPLADS Guidelines of April 2002 issued earlier and it was operative till the MPLAD Scheme guidelines were amended in November 2005. S. No. 23 of Appendix–I of the then MPLADS Guidelines (April 2002), which contained the illustrative list of works that could be taken up, had stated as under :-

> "Procurement of hospital equipment like X-Ray machines, ambulances for Government Hospitals and setting up of mobile dispensaries in rural areas by Government Panchayati Institutions. Ambulances can be provided to reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Ramakrishna Mission, etc."

7. The Committee on MPLADS considered the Memorandum No. 3 prepared by the Secretariat in the matter at their sitting held on 5 January 2010.

8. The Committee took note of the fact that before amendment of the MPLAD guidelines in 2005, the Members could recommend purchase of ambulances, *inter alia*, for reputed service organizations like the Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. The Committee also noted that under the revised MPLAD Scheme guidelines issued by the Ministry in November 2005, the Members could recommend purchase of vehicles meant for hospitals belonging to the Centre, States, UT and Local Self Governments only and not for NGOs. Keeping in view the humanitarian services rendered by the non-governmental organizations like the Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc., the Committee desired that such reputed organizations should also be permitted to purchase ambulances out of the MPLADS funds, as was the case before amendment of the guidelines in 2005. Accordingly, the Committee decided that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation might be asked to amend the relevant provision in the extant MPLADS guidelines (Item 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS – Annexure II of the guidelines) to enable the Members to also recommend

purchase of ambulances for reputed service organisations like the Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc.

9. The Committee also noted that under the extant guidelines, a restriction of 10% of the capital cost of the works was imposed under item 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS (Annexure II of the MPLADS guidelines). The Committee felt that 10% of the cost of the work was not adequate for completion of the work. For example, in case an ambulance (which costs around Rs. 6 lakh) is recommended, 10% of the amount would come to Rs. 60,000/- only which was too meagre to purchase an ambulance. The Committee, therefore, decided that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation should be asked to remove the extant condition of 10% of the capital cost of the work mentioned under item 8 of Annexure II of the guidelines.

10. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation was requested to furnish their comments in the matter on 26 February 2010. The Ministry furnished its reply only on 17 May 2010 and that too after several written and telephonic reminders by the Committee Secretariat. It is pertinent to mention here that information on other representations/complaints forwarded by the MPLADS Committee Branch is also delayed in the Ministry, sometimes for months together.

11. On provision of MPLADS funds to reputed service organizations like Red Cross etc. for purchase of ambulance, the comments furnished by the Ministry are as follows:-

> "It may be mentioned in this context that the purchase of ambulances for reputed service organizations like Ramakrishna Mission, Red Cross etc. was allowed under the MPLAD Scheme for the first time in 1999. However, during the revision of Guidelines in 2005, based on the operational experience and the feedback it was decided to discontinue provision of all moveable items, such as ambulances, computers, etc. (medical equipments were never allowed for NGOs) for non-Government Organisations. Therefore, under the current Guidelines, ambulances can be provided only for Central/State/Local Self Government hospitals.
>
> The issues relating to recommendations to NGOs, their accountability etc. are raised by the State/District Authorities during review meetings and training workshops. These issues relating to scrutiny of recommendations to NGOs have been raised in Performance Audit Report of the CAG also, and there is a demand to incorporate stronger provisions in the Guidelines so that the public is benefited, even in the case of current provisions of providing only public utility building assets to NGOs. However, in view of the request of the Lok Sabha

Committee the matter will be examined once again at the time of the revision of the Guidelines."

12. In regard to the removal of the ceiling of 10% of the capital cost of the work, the Ministry clarified as under:-

"The provision of ceiling of 10% of the capital cost mentioned in item-8 of Annexure – II, applies only when an Member of Parliament recommends a composite project for constructing a building asset (such as wards, etc.) along with equipments/ambulance in the case of a Government Hospital and a building asset (such as classrooms, laboratory, library etc.) along with computers in the case of a Government educational institution. However, if an MP recommends equipments/computers separately after some time after recommending the building asset, no ceiling applies. Recognizing that the provision does not apply under all conditions, and it has also sometimes been confusing for the District Authorities, it has now been decided that no ceiling will apply for recommendation of assets such as computers/equipments/ambulances etc. when they are recommended along with construction of building assets for Government institutions (educational institution, hospital, etc.). Computers/equipments/ ambulances can be recommended for any amount along with building assets or separately also. A letter in this regard will be circulated to all the District Authorities."

Observations/recommendations

13. The Committee note that the Ministry discontinued the provision of MPLADS funds for purchase of ambulances by reputed service organizations like Ramakrishna Mission, Red Cross, etc. on the basis of operational experience and the feedback received by it from the State/district authorities on issues relating to recommendations to entrust work to NGOs and their accountability, etc. While agreeing to the proposal of the Ministry that stronger and stricter provisions are needed in regard to proper utilization of MPLAD funds by NGOs, the Committee are of the considered view that apart from the Central, State and local self Governments, reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission etc. also render great humanitarian service to the poor and the needy for routine health care and in times of natural calamities and they, therefore, may also be provided with MPLADS funds to enable them to purchase ambulance. The Committee are unhappy that a routine reply has been furnished by the Ministry in this regard that the matter will be examined once again at the time of the revision of the guidelines. Time of revision of guidelines has not also been mentioned in the reply of the Ministry. Instead of postponing this important matter till the revision of the guidelines, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should take immediate steps to amend the extant provision contained in item No. 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS as follows:-

> **"Purchase of all movable items except vehicles, earth movers, and equipments meant for hospital, educational, sports, drinking water and sanitation purposes belonging to Central, State, UT and Local Self Governments. However, ambulance can be provided to reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Ramakrishna Mission, etc. without any restriction on the cost of the vehicle."**

Committee further desire that the action taken on the above recommendation should be furnished to the Committee within three months from the date of presentation of this Report to the Lok Sabha.

14. The Committee note that the provision of ceiling of 10% of the capital cost mentioned in item No. 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLAD Scheme applies only when a Member of Parliament recommends a composite project for construction of a building asset alongwith movable items. This ceiling does not

apply in the cases of recommendations made by MPs for provision of movable items exclusively. In this regard, the Committee are constrained to note that the above condition laid down by the Ministry in the guidelines has led to confusion among District authorities while implementing this provision. Taking into account the difficulties being faced by the implementing authorities, the Ministry has now decided to lift this 10% ceiling imposed by it. The Committee hope that expeditious steps will be taken by the Ministry to inform the district authorities about the decision taken in this regard. Action taken in the matter should be intimated to the Committee. They also urge the Ministry to examine the entire set of MPLADS guidelines thoroughly in consultation with the Committee on MPLADS of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and take immediate steps to remove such ambiguities in the guidelines.

15. The Committee take a serious view of the apathetic attitude of the Ministry in furnishing replies to the communications sent by the Secretariat in regard to the decisions taken by the Committee for the effective implementation of the MPLAD Scheme. In the instant case, comments of the Ministry were solicited on the provision of ambulance to reputed service organizations like Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. on 26 February 2010. The Ministry furnished its reply only on 17 May 2010 after several written and telephonic reminders by the Secretariat. Replies on other representations/complaints forwarded to the Ministry are also delayed in the Ministry many a time for months together. The Ministry is expected to accord top priority to the information sought by the Committee and send the same expeditiously. The Committee feel highly concerned about the lackadaisical attitude of the Ministry in furnishing information sought by the Committee for the examination of the subjects taken up by them and other matters.

A.K.S. Vijayan
Chairman
Committee on Member of Parliament
Local Area Development Scheme
Lok Sabha

New Delhi

05 August, 2010
14 Shravana, 1932 (Saka)

Appendix - 1

Government of West Bengal
Office of the District Magistrate, Hooghly
(Development Department)

Memo. No. 327 Dev. Dated, the 25th February, 2009

To

Shri Rupchand Pal,
Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)
27-Hooghly Parliamentary Constituency
Boral Lane, Hooghly,
P.O + Dist. – Hooghly

Sub: Implementation of Scheme under MPLADS – recommendation dated 11-02-2009 thereof.

Sir,

This is to bring your kind notice that as regards the recommendation for Scheme viz. Provision of TATA Sumo Ambulance at maternity Home, Red Cross, Tamilpara, Hooghly. It is stated that since the said institution is not belonging to Central, State, Union Territory, or Local Self Government, the works in question is not permissible under MPLADS due to specific restriction of taking up of any work vide Sl. No. 8 of Annexure II of the Guidelines under MPLADS.

This for your information.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

Additional District Magistrate (General)
Hooghly

APPENDIX-2

Jan. 01 1992 03:15PM P01

PHONE NO. : 26810331

रूपचंद पाल Rupchand Pal
Member of Parliament (LOK SABHA)
Chief Whip, C.P.I.(M)
Chairman, Committee on
Public Sector Undertaking (COPU)

सत्यमेव जयते

Boral Lane, Hooghly 712 103
Phone : (033) 2680-2691

106, North Avenue
New Delhi 110001
Phone : (011) 23092772
(011) 23034244
Fax : 011-2301 7852
e-mail : rcpal@sansad.nic.in

30.07.2009

To
Shri Hardeo Singh,
Director, MPLADS,
Parliament House Annexe,
New Delhi.

Sub: Provision of MPLADS Fund to Indian Red Cross Society
Hooghly District Branch

Dear Sir,

This has reference to the Telephonic talk I had with you the other day in connection with the Guidelines regarding provision of Fund to any Branch of Indian Red Cross Society.

In the past as M.P., I had made available fund for Indian ed Cross Society, Hooghly District Branch (of which the District Magistrate is the Chair person and the Governor of West Bengal is Chairman of the State Committee as per Red Cross Society Constitution).

But the latest recommendation for one Ambulance as also the fund for Civil Construction of the Hooghly District Branch of Indian Red Cross Society has not been sanctioned on the ground of some reported recent Guidelines in respect of MPLADS.

I am at a loss to understand as to how such an organization of International repute like Indian Red Cross Society which has been historically rendering very valuable service to the victims of different calamites and adverse situations natural or otherwise can be denied MPLADS Fund is really puzzling when the Government themselves are providing regular funds to the different Branches of the Indian Red Cross Society including Hooghly District Branch.

I am enclosing herewith the recommendation I had made along with the Reply from the Office of the District Magistrate, Hooghly (Development Section) vide Memo No.327, dtd. 25th February, 2009.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,

Enclo : i) My letter of Recommendation, dtd. 11.02.2009
ii) Memo of D.M., Hooghly Office, dtd. 25.02.2009

APPENDIX-3

Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme

भारत सरकार
सांख्यिकी एवं कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय
सरदार पटेल भवन, नई दिल्ली-110001

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
SARDAR PATEL BHAVAN, NEW DELHI-110001
FAX : 23364197
E-mail : mplads@nic.in

L/25/22/2004-MPLADS

Dated : 17.11.2009

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Representation regarding provision of MPLADS funds to India Red Cross Society, Hooghly District Branch, West Bengal.

The undersigned is directed to Lok Sabha Secretariat's O.M. No.9/22/MPLADSC/2008-09 dated 3rd August, 2009 and to say that a factual report in the matter was called from the nodal district authority, Hooghly, West Bengal. The District Magistrate has furnished report in the matter vide letter No.1373/Dev. Dated 8th October, 2009 (copy enclosed for ready reference).

(Dharam Pal)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India

Lok Sabha Secretariat
[**Shri J.M. Baisakh, Additional** Director],
MPLADS Committee Branch,
Parliament House Annexe,
New Delhi-110001.

Government of West Bengal
Office of the District Magistrate, Hooghly.
Development Department.

Memo. No. 1373 /Dev. Dated, Chinsurah, the 8th October, 2009.

From : Dr. Aswini Yadav, I.A.S.
District Magistrate,
Hooghly.

To : Shri Dharam Pal,
Deputy Secretary to the
Government of India,
Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation,
Sardar Patel Bhavan,
Sansad Marg,
New Delhi -110001.

Sub : Factual report regarding provision of MPLAD funds to Indian Red Cross Society, Hooghly District Branch.

Ref : Your office Memo.No. 25/022/2004-MPLADS, dated, 11.08.2009.

Sir,

Kindly refer to your memo. on the above noted captioned subject.

This is to bring your notice that on receipt of recommendation dated, 11-02-2009 from Shri Rupchand Pal, the then Member of Parliament (Loksabha), 27-Hooghly Parliamentary Constituency we have verified the eligibility of work on each recommended work on 24-02-2009. Details of action taken report from this end are noted below :-

1. In case of Construction of Maternity Home at Red Cross, Tamilpara, Hooghly.

The proposed organization for whom the work will be implemented with MPLAD fund is a Non-Government Organization. As per Para 3.21 of guideline , Chairman, Hooghly Chinsurah Municipality , proposed implementing agency, with a copy to the then Hon'ble M.P. (Loksabha), have been requested vide this office memo.no.328(6)/Dev. dated, 25-02-2009 (Photo copy enclosed) to submit some information on the selected points with relevant documents to this office to enable this office for final sanction of the work. But till date we have not yet received any such information from the Chairman, Hooghly Chinsurah Municipality and we have not sanction the proposed work accordingly.

2. In case of Provision for TATA SUMO AMBULANCE at Red Cross, Hooghly.

The proposed work is inadmissible under MPLAD as Indian Red Cross Society is not belonging to Central, State, U.T. and Local Self Govt. (vide Sl.No. 8 of Annexure-II of Guideline).

This is for your information and taking necessary action.

Encls :- One Sheet.

Yours faithfully,

06/10/09
District Magistrate,
Hooghly
12/10/09

APPENDIX-4

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME, LOK SABHA (2009-10)

*****

The Committee sat on Tuesday, 5 January 2010 from 1500 hours to 1545 hours in Committee Room '074', Parliament Library Building, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri A.K.S. Vijayan - Chairman

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
3. Adv. Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar
4. Shri D.B. Chandre Gowda
5. Shri Kailash Joshi
6. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
7. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
8. Kumari Saroj Pandey
9. Shri Tufani Saroj

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri N.K. Sapra - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Hardev Singh - Director

2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee and apprised them of the proposed plan of action to be followed by the Committee during 2010.

3. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration Memorandum No. 2 on the subject 'Provision of MPLAD funds to the Indian Red Cross Society, Hooghly District, West Bengal for purchase of ambulance'. The Committee took note of the fact that

before amendment of the MPLAD guidelines in 2005, the Members could recommend purchase of ambulances, *inter alia*, for reputed service organizations like the Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc. (Guidelines issued in April 2002-item No. 23 of the illustrative list of works that could be taken up under the MPLAD Scheme). The Committee also noted that under the revised MPLAD Scheme guidelines issued by the Ministry in November, 2005, the Members could recommend purchase of vehicles meant for hospitals belonging to the Centre, States, UT and Local Self Governments only and not for NGOs (Annexure II – Item 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS). Keeping in view the humanitarian services rendered by the non-governmental organizations like the Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc., the Committee desired that such reputed organizations should also be permitted to purchase ambulances out of the MPLADS funds, as was the case before amendment of the guidelines in 2005. Accordingly, the Committee decided that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation might be asked to amend the relevant proviso in the extant MPLADS guidelines (Item 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS – Annexure II of the guidelines) to enable the Members to also recommend purchase of ambulances for reputed service organizations like the Red Cross, Rama Krishna Mission, etc.

4. The Committee also noted that under the extant guidelines, a restriction of 10% of the capital cost of the works was imposed under item 8 of the list of works prohibited under MPLADS – Annexure II). The Committee felt that 10% of the cost of the work was not adequate for completion of the work. For example, in case an ambulance (which costs around Rs. 6 lakh) is recommended, 10% of the amount would come to Rs. 60,000/- only which was not enough to purchase an ambulance. The Committee, therefore, decided that the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation should be asked to remove the extant condition of 10% of the capital cost of the work mentioned under item 8 of Annexure II of the guidelines.

5. **xxx** **xxx** **xxx** **xxx**

The Committee then adjourned.

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APPENDIX-5

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF THE EIGHT SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LOK SABHA) HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 16 JUNE 2010.

The Committee sat on Wednesday, 16 June 2010 from 1130 hours to 1215 hours in Committee Room 'D', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Kailash Joshi - In the Chair

MEMBERS

2. Dr. Rattan Singh Ajnala
3. Dr. Baliram
4. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
5. Adv. Ganeshrao Nagorao Dudhgaonkar
6. Shri Shripad Yesso Naik
7. Shri Jagdambika Pal
8. Shri Rajendrasinh Rana
9. Shri Rudramadhab Ray
10. Shri Tufani Saroj
11. Shri Gopal Singh Shekhawat
12. Shri Jagdish Thakor
13. Shri Om Prakash Yadav

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Hardev Singh - Director
2. Shri C. Kalyanasundaram - Under Secretary

2. In view of absence of the Chairman of the Committee (Shri A.K.S. Vijayan), who could not attend the sitting of the Committee due to indisposition, the Committee chose Shri Kailash Joshi, Member of the Committee to act as Chairman for the sitting under Rule 258 (3) of the Rules of procedure and conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.

3. The acting Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee. The Committee then took up for consideration two draft reports on the following subjects and adopted the same without any amendments :-

(i) Awareness in the Implementing Agencies about importance of the MPLAD Scheme through Training Programmes, Seminars, Symposia, Workshops, etc.

(ii) Providing MPLADS funds to acquire ambulances by reputed service organizations like Red Cross, etc.

4. The Committee authorized the Chairman to finalise the Reports and also to make consequential changes, if any, in the light of factual verification and present them to Lok Sabha.

The Committee then adjourned.

_____